

SEQUOIA NOTES

Today's Sequoia Message...

Grow Deep - Live Tall From Seeds to Sequoias

With Ryan Dawson - Lead Pastor
March 1, 2026



What will it take for us to grow from seeds to Sequoias?

- **Because Christ is fully sufficient, growth doesn't mean chasing new things—it means going deeper into Him.**

Colossians 2:6-7 (NLT) “And now, just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow him. ⁷ Let your roots grow down into him, and let your lives be built on him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness.”

- **To be a disciple is to be an apprentice.**

John 15:5 (AMP) “I am the Vine; you are the branches. The one who remains in Me and I in him bears much fruit, for [otherwise] apart from Me [that is, cut off from vital union with Me] you can do nothing.”

Matthew 7: 24-15

Paul says... v. 7 “you will overflow with thankfulness.”

Thankfulness (*eucharistia*)

Grace (*charis*)

Joy (*chara*)

Colossians 2:6-7 (AMP) As you have therefore received Christ, [even] Jesus the Lord, [so] walk (regulate your lives and conduct yourselves) in union with and conformity to Him. ⁷ Have the roots [of your being] firmly and deeply planted [in Him, fixed and founded in Him], being **continually** built up in Him, becoming **increasingly** more confirmed and established in the faith, just as you were taught, and **abounding and overflowing** in it with thanksgiving.

Big Idea: We grow deep to live tall through shared practices.

Sequoia's 8 Core Practices (D.I.S.C.I.P.L.E.)

D – Devoting our lives to God in Worship.

- **We invite you to make Sunday worship a priority, as we offer our lives in worship.**
1 Chronicles 16:29 (NLT) “Give to the Lord the glory he deserves! Bring your offering and come into his presence. Worship the Lord in all his holy splendour.”

I – Imitating the Way of Jesus.

- **We invite you to imitate the way of Jesus in His love, obedience, rest, & service, so that Christ's character is patiently formed in you.**

Ephesians 5:1-2 (NLT) “Imitate God, therefore, in everything you do, because you are his dear children. ² Live a life filled with love, following the example of Christ. He loved us and offered himself as a sacrifice for us, a pleasing aroma to God.”

S – Serving Like Jesus.

- **We invite you to make it a regular practice to serve as we live out our mission as a Family of Servants on Mission.**

Mark 10:45 (NLT) “For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life...”

C – Connecting in Community.

- **We invite you to engage in community life.**

Hebrews 10:24-25 (NLT) “Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works. ²⁵ And let us not neglect our meeting together, as some people do, but encourage one another, especially now that the day of his return is drawing near.”

I – Investing in Prayer.

- **We invite you to join us in engage in the life of prayer at Sequoia.**

Romans 12:12 (NLT) “Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying.”

P – Practicing Generosity.

- **We invite you to give generously & joyfully in response to God's grace, to the kingdom vision & mission of Sequoia, trusting God to multiply every seed.**

2 Corinthians 9:11 “You will be enriched in every way so that you can always be generous.”

L – Living on Mission.

- **We invite you to live on mission with us as we seek to help thousands experience the kingdom of Jesus together, wherever we live, work, play, & go.**

Matthew 28:19 (NLT) “Go and make disciples of all nations.”

E – Empowering Others to Follow.

- **We invite you to join us in empowering others to multiply disciples of Jesus.**

2 Timothy 2:2 (NIV) “What you have heard from me... entrust to faithful people who will be able to teach others also.”



**Sequoia Impact Communities are where we
live out our identity as a
Family of Servants on Mission.**

To get plugged in email:

impactcommunities@sequoiachurch.org

**Grow Deep - Live Tall
#1 of 1 - March 1, 2026**

Context

- 1) Read Colossians 2:6–7 together. What pressures or false teachings was Paul the Apostle addressing in the church at Colossae? How does his emphasis on continuing in Christ guard them from chasing “something more”?
- 2) Compare Colossians 2:6–7 with John 15:5 and Matthew 7:24–27. What consistent theme do you see about spiritual growth, fruit, and foundation? Why is abiding or remaining such a central idea?

Observation

- 3) Notice the verbs in Colossians 2:6–7: received, continue (walk), rooted, built up, strengthened, overflowing. Which word or image stands out most to you and why?
- 4) Paul says we will “overflow with thankfulness.” What connection do you see between being deeply rooted in Christ and living a life marked by gratitude, joy (chara), and grace (charis)? What does that overflow look like practically?

Meaning

- 5) “Just as you accepted Christ Jesus as Lord, continue to follow Him.” What does it mean that we grow the same way we began—by faith? How does this challenge the idea that growth comes from chasing new spiritual experiences rather than going deeper into Christ?
- 6) Jesus says in John 15:5 that apart from Him we can do nothing. What does that teach us about discipleship as apprenticeship? How does staying vitally connected to Christ shape our identity and daily dependence?

Application

- 7) Why do shared practices help us grow deep roots?
- 8) Reflect and discuss the 8 Core Practices at Sequoia. Which practice do you need to lean into this week and how will this help you grow as a disciple of Jesus?
- 9) What does it look like for you to Grow Deep & Live Tall this week?



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